

**City of Kingston Arts Commission
Meeting - Thursday, December 8, 2016 – 4:30 p.m.
City Hall**

MINUTES

Attendance

Commission members in attendance were: Anne Bailey, Micah Blumenthal, Peter Criswell, Ruth Ann Devitt-Frank, Lara Giordano, Linda Marston-Reid and Ward Mintz.

Excused: Richard Frumess, Susie Linn

Absent: Bill Carey, Alderman, Ward 5 (Common Council Liaison)

Guest: Suzanne Holt, Director, Ulster County Office of Economic Development

Call to Order

Ward called the meeting to order at 4:35.

November Minutes

November minutes were unanimously approved.

Moment of Silence for Pauline Oliveros

The Commission observed a moment of silence in Pauline's honor and memory. Plans for a public tribute will be discussed at the January meeting.

Welcome to Peter Criswell

All welcomed Peter, who has extensive background in arts and nonprofit administration with organizations such as Lincoln Center, the Gay Men's Chorus and the Omega Institute, to the Commission. Peter is also a new Kingston resident and is pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to his new city as a member of the Arts Commission.

Event Reports

SinterKlaas: In Susie's absence, Peter and Micah offered their observations about the event, which was generally successful and well received. They noted that the effort to

engage Midtown this year appeared to fall short and could use more organizational leadership on site. Engaging residents of this neighborhood requires a strong grassroots/knocking on doors effort.

New Business: Suzanne Holt

Suzanne joined the meeting to speak about an Ulster County IDA funding opportunity. A request for proposals for job-creating projects is posted on the County's web site: <http://ulstercountyny.gov/economic-development/ulster-county-industrial-development-agency>

The IDA will distribute a total of \$200,000 to organizations that have projects that will deliver services to new and expanding local businesses, enabling those businesses to retain or expand their workforces. Nonprofit and for-profit organizations are eligible. It is likely that the IDA will select four winning projects to receive \$50,000 each. The application deadline is Friday, January 27, 2017. This seemed, to Commission members, to present opportunities for local arts organizations, especially those that are service-oriented.

Old Business

Business Cards & Stationery

In Susie's absence, Ruth Ann distributed the new, nicely designed cards that Susie produced to the members, who were very appreciative.

Press Release Re Commission's Work in 2016

Ward mentioned that he sent the draft of a press release to the Mayor's assistant.

Next Meeting

The next Arts Commission meeting will take place on **Thursday, January 12 at 4:30 p.m.** at City Hall.

The December meeting adjourned at 5:30 in order for members to go to the Made in Kingston event.